Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1897.

To the Urban District Council of the City of Winchester.

Gentlemen,

The following is my Report for the year 1897.

At the outset I must congratulate you on the very favourable condition of the Public Health during the past year, and also express satisfaction that in this district the joyful celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee were in no way marred by epidemic diseases or excessive mortality.

The Tables comprised in this Report, although suggesting the necessity for further exertions, contain figures more favourable than those of any previous year.

The death rate is only 13 per thousand and of these only 26 per cent are of children under five years of age, a most welcome improvement. The deaths from Zymotic Diseases amount to ·2 per thousand, and there has been no death from either of the following diseases, viz: Small Pox, Scarlatina, Erysipelas, the group of diseases classified as Fevers and Diarrhœa.

The Population of the District is estimated at 18350, as against 18419 for 1896; the average strength at the Barracks having been reduced and some slight changes having taken place in some of the parishes of Groups II. and III.

Tables A and B are appended and are similar to those of previous years.

The deaths in 1897 amounted to 242. Of these deaths 3 were at the Barracks and 26 at the Union Workhouse; 9 of the latter belong to the Urban and 17 to other Districts. During the year, 20 occurred at the County Hospital and 1 at the Victoria Hospital of persons belonging to this District which are not included in the Tables; both these Institutions being situated within the Area of the Rural Sanitary District.

Taking the grouping of Table A the deaths in the District occurred at the following ages:—

Deaths under 1 year of age	...	46	63
" over " " and under 5 years	...	17	
" " 5 " " 15 "	...	7	179
" " 15 " " 25 "	...	7	
" " 25 " " 65 "	...	80	
" " 65 " " "	...	85	

Of the 85 deaths of persons over 65 years of age, 24 died at ages over 80; 5 having reached the great age of 90 and upwards.

The Registered Births were 455, being 6 in excess of the previous year.

The following Table shows how the Population, Births, and Deaths, and Deaths from Zymotic Diseases were distributed in 1897.

LOCALITY.	GROUP I*	GROUP II†	GROUP III‡	BARRACKS	WORKHOUSE	THE WHOLE DISTRICT
Area in Acres ...	...	...	...	...	...	A. R. 1043 2
Population—Census, 1891	5850	6388	5619	1216	Included in Group I	19073
" Estimated for 1897	5870	6548	5629	303	"	18350
Persons to Acre ...	...	...	...	...	...	17·58
Total Deaths ...	65	91	57	3	26	242
Deaths from 7 principal Zymotic Diseases ...	2	3				
Total Births ...	138	157	137	19	4	455

* Group I.—The Parishes of St. Thomas, Weeke, and part of Chilcombe.

† Group II.—The Parishes of St. Bartholomew Hyde, St. Peter Cheesehill, Milland, St. Faith, St. John, and Winnall.

‡ Group III.—The Parishes of St. Maurice, St. Mary Kalendre, St. Lawrence, St. Swithun, St. Michael, and St Peter Colebrook

The following Table shows the comparative mortality of the whole District, and as divided into three almost equal Groups of Parishes and also of the component Parishes of Group II, together with the Birth Rate in these Localities.

LOCALITY.	GROUP I*	GROUP II	GROUP III	THE WHOLE DISTRICT	COMPONENT PARISHES OF GROUP II			
					St. Bartholomew Hyde.	St. Peter Cheesehill & Milland	St. Faith.	St. John and Winnall
Deaths per 1000 ...	11	13·8	10·1	13·1	9	18·3	14·4	15
" " excluding Deaths at Workhouse of persons from other Districts, and adding those at Hospitals of persons belonging to this District	...	...	...	13·8	...	...	...	...
Percentage of Deaths of Children under 5 years	24	25	40	26	13·3	33·3	10	44
Births per 1000 ...	23·5	23·9	24·3	24·7	10·8	20·5	10·4	40
Percentage of Deaths of Children under 1 year to Births	8·6	11·4	10·9	10·1	3·2	20·6	10	11·9
Deaths per 1000 from Zymotic Diseases ...	...	...	...	·2	...	...	...	...

* The numbers in this Column are affected by the Population, and the Births at the Workhouse situated within the area of Group I being included.

Zymotic Diseases.—The District was affected by each of them as follows :—

Small Pox.—No case during the year.

Scarlatina.—There were 17 cases notified. In two it is doubtful whether the disease existed, the remaining fifteen were all isolated in Hospital and recovered. They were scattered throughout the District, 6 in Group I, 5 in Group II, and 6 in Group III. In only a few instances could any connection be traced between them, and in one the infection was probably introduced from another District. They occurred in the following order :—

January	February	March	May	June	October	November
5	4	2	2	1	2	1

Diphtheria.—Of this disease 33 were notified, one as Membranous Croup, 5 were young adults, the rest children. In three the diagnosis was doubtful, 4 were isolated more or less at their own houses and 26 in Victoria Hospital. They occurred in nearly every month in the year, viz:

Jan	Feb.	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3	1	1	2	8	1	4	6	3	3	1

They were scattered all through the District, 6 of them were in St. Swithun's School in June and 1 in November. Between September 20th and October 1st there were five cases in Wales Street, some of these presumably communicated the infection to one another. In two instances the disease was contracted at a distance from Winchester, and in one a second person in the same house caught the complaint.

The following conditions were met with at the houses of some of the patients : excessive overcrowding and very defective sanitary arrangements : very unsatisfactory arrangements and contamination with sewer gas : at a house where there were two severe cases, small yard with filthy accumulations, drain blocked, fowls in a dirty state and with sewer ventilator

dangerously placed: pollutions of the small yards at the rear of several of these houses was noticed: at four, fowls not kept clean, at one, fowls and pigeons, at one, fowls and an undrained stable, and at one rabbits, and at another complaints of nuisance from neighbouring pigs. One child only died in the Victoria Hospital. It is probable that efficient isolation saved the District from more serious outbreaks.

Enteric Fever.—Two cases notified. At the house of one of them, the drainage was found defective, allowing of sewer gas pollution. Drinking water, a shallow well liable to pollution.

Measles and Whooping Cough.—Not prevalent. One death attributed to the former and three to the latter in children under 5 years of age.

Diarrhœa.—Less cases than usual, none fatal.

Puerperal Fever.—One case notified. Antistreptococus Serum was injected and the patient recovered. By this mode of treatment modern science provides relief for this dangerous malady.

Erysipelas.—Thirteen cases, none fatal.

All through the year numerous inspections have been made in all parts of the District, both by myself and the Inspector of Nuisances. The following insanitary conditions were discovered in a block of eleven houses, when making a systematic inspection of 42 houses forming the east side of Wales Street. At the rear of these houses was a narrow yard insufficiently paved, much polluted with laundry water and other impurities, and with a defective surface gutter. In one, the sewer passed under the floor with no intercepting trap or ventilator either in front or behind, as required by the Bye Laws, sanitary convenience out of repair, there had been sickness at this house. Of the remaining 10, one house was very dirty, all the sanitary conveniences had either no water or a deficient supply. Five of these were very dirty, four much out of repair, and two of the sewer ventilators ended too close to windows.

Advice has been tendered from time to time whenever the Sanitary Committee have required the assistance of the Health Officer. At his suggestion the Seal of the Authority was affixed to petitions to the Local Government Board and Board of Trade asking them to obtain powers to prevent the drainage of sewage on to Oyster Fisheries.

All plans for New Buildings have been examined by him that he might suggest any sanitary improvements.

The prevalence of Typhoid Fever in other towns attributed to the drinking of impure water seemed to make it necessary to inquire into the purity of that supplied to this District, and a sample taken at its source was submitted for Analysis to Dr. Attfield. The following is his Report:—

> "The appended analytical data show that this water is free from contaminating proportions of animal, vegetable, or mineral substances. The water is hard, but not excessively hard. In my opinion it is of excellent quality for all drinking purposes."

ANALYTICAL DATA.

One Gallon contains the following number of grains and decimal parts of a grain of the respective substances:—

Total suspended solid matter, dried at 250°F.		none
Total dissolved " " "		25·0
Ammoniacal matter yielding 10 per cent of nitrogen (equal to ammonia per million, 0·07)		0·04
Albuminoid organic matter, yielding 10 per cent of nitrogen (equal to ammonia per million, 0·04)		0·02
Nitrites		none
Nitrates, containing 17 per cent of nitrogen (equal to grains of nitrogen per gallon, 0·4)		2·4
Chlorides, containing 60 per cent of chlorine (equal to grains of chlorine per gallon, 1·2)		2·0
Hardness, reckoned as chalk-grains or "degrees":—		
Removed by ebullition	13·0	
Unaffected by ebullition	3·0	
Total hardness		16·0
Lead or copper		none
Physical Examination	bright, inodorous, palatable	
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours		0·03

I further suggested that a Chemical and Bacteriological Examination should be in future periodically made of samples taken from different localities. For the latter purpose the Sanitary Authority of this District have joined the Clinical Research Association, and this body will, quarterly at least, undertake the Bacteriological Examination. The following is the Report on the first sample examined:

> "This water contains 32 organisms per cubic centimetre. As a water of good quality is supposed to contain not more than about 100 per cubic centimetre it will be seen that from this standard yours is of excellent quality."

While considering our Water Supply, it is interesting to record that the County Hospital has connected its drains with the City system of sewers, and that the County Prison is about to do the same, both these large Institutions ceasing to pollute the soil by the use of cesspits.

The new series of Bye Laws which have for so long a time engaged the attention of the Sanitary Committee, and which will now shortly come into operation, will entrust some much desired powers to the District Council. The principal gain is the provision that no room intended for human habitation shall be erected of less than 8ft-6in. in height unless it be an attic, which may not be less than 5ft. in height in any part, and to the extent of two-thirds not less than 9ft. There are also useful provisions as to the placing of windows to secure adequate ventilation, as to paving of spaces round dwellings when required, as to making proper means of access in new streets for the removal of refuse, and more important still for preventing buildings which have been erected in accordance with Bye Laws from being altered in such a way that if at first so constructed they would have contravened the Bye Laws.

NOTE.—The word "building" is understood to include sewers proper to such building.

In consequence of an outbreak of Diphtheria, an inspection was made of St. Swithun's Industrial School; the overcrowding and other insanitary conditions there discovered have been dealt with in a Special Report. The allegation however that the sickness was caused by want of care in the removal of an old house adjoining is not borne out by the ascertained facts, for the first case of Diphtheria was notified on June 6th, while the demolition of the building was not commenced till the 10th.

Certificates have been given that three houses were unfit for human habitation, and needful repairs have been executed in response to your order.

Numerous inspections have been made of workshops and bakeries, and nuisances caused by overcrowding, want of cleanliness, and deficient ventilation have been abated.

The Tallow Boiling Business which has been carried on for many years in Lower Brook Street to the great annoyance of the neighbourhood, has been discontinued, the lease of the premises having expired. This offensive trade is no longer conducted in any part of the district.

In October last I again drew your attention to the importance of conveying the various streams through the district in water-tight carriers in order to more effectually dry the sub-soil and improve the sanitary condition of those localities.

It now only remains to acknowledge with thankfulness the support which you have accorded me and the appreciation which you have shown of the efforts which I have made for the improvement of your district.

THOS. C. LANGDON, F.R.C.S.,
Medical Officer of Health.

GUILDHALL, WINCHESTER,
Feb. 5th, 1898.

(A) TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1897 in the Winchester Urban District, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of the Statistics; public institutions being shewn as separate localities. (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B. [a]	Mortality from all Causes at subjoined Ages. At all Ages. [b]	Under 1 Year [c]	1 and under 5 [d]	5 and under 15 [e]	15 and under 25 [f]	25 and under 65 [g]	65 and upw'ds [h]	Mortality from subjoined causes, Distinguishing Deaths of Children under 5 Years of Age. [i]	Smallpox 1	Scarlatina 2	Diphtheria 3	Membranous Croup 4	Fevers. Typhus 5	Enteric or Typhoid 6	Continued 7	Relapsing 8	Puerperal 9	Cholera 10	Erysipelas 11	Measles 12	Whooping Cough 13	Diarrhœa and Dysentery 14	Rheumatic Fever 15	Phthisis 16	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy 17	Heart Disease 18	Injuries 20	All other Diseases 21	Total 22
GROUP I	65	12	4	1	2	21	25	Under 5													1			1	4			10	16
								5 upwds																7	5	3		34	49
GROUP II	91	18	5	4	3	32	29	Under 5												1	2			1	2	1	1	14	22
								5 upwds																8	10	12	3	36	69
GROUP III	57	15	8	2	1	14	17	Under 5																1	3	2		18	24
								5 upwds																3	2	5	1	22	33
BARRACKS	3	1				2		Under 5																	1				1
								5 upwds																1	1				2
WORKHOUSE	26				1	11	14	Under 5																					
								5 upwds																4	2	2	1	17	26
Totals	242	46	17	7	7	80	85	Under 5												1	3			3	10	3	1	42	63
								5 upwds																23	20	22	5	109	179
The subjoined numbers of Deaths occurring outside the District of persons belonging thereto have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.																													
Royal Hants County Hospital	20	1	1	1	5	9	3	Under 5																1				1	2
								5 upwds																3		2	2	11	18
Victoria Hospital	1			1				Under 5																					
								5 upwds			1																		1

[B] TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES of INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1897, in the Winchester Urban District, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purposes of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shewn as separate Localities.	Population at all ages		Registered Births	Aged under 5 or over 5	New Cases of Sickness in each locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health											Number of such cases removed from their homes in the several localities for treatment in Isolation Hospitals										
									FEVERS											FEVERS						
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1897			Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup.	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
GROUP I	5850	5870	138	Under 5		2	3	1									1	2								
				5 upwds.		4	5								3		4	4								
GROUP II	6388	6548	157	Under 5			3								1			2								
				5 upwds.		5	10			1			1		2		5	8								
GROUP III	5619	5629	137	Under 5		1	2										1	2								
				5 upwds.		5	9			1					7		4	8								
BARRACKS	1216	303	19	Under 5																						
				5 upwds.																						
WORKHOUSE			4	Under 5																						
				5 upwds.											1											
Totals	19073	18350	455	Under 5		3	8	1							1		2	6								
				5 upwds.		14	24			2			1		13		13	20								

Notification of Infectious Diseases became compulsory on February 1st, 1890.

No Diseases other than those included in the "Infectious Diseases Notification Act" are notifiable in the District.

The Isolation Hospital belongs to the Sanitary Authority, and is situated on high ground surrounded by breezy Downs in the Rural Sanitary District of Winchester over a mile from the City. Cases of Infectious Sickness at Winchester College, Barracks, and Workhouse are treated in their own Hospitals.

VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

REPORT of the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT for the Year 1897.

The Hospital has been doing very useful work during the past year, 19 Patients remained on January 1st, and 41 were admitted during the year.

For 55 days it was empty, viz. from April 14th, to May 17th, and from December 8th, to the end of the year.

The necessity for extending the accommodation of the Hospital to enable it efficiently to supply the needs of a period of Epidemic Sickness has wisely been taken into consideration. Additional land to the extent of $2\frac{1}{3}$ acres has been purchased at the rear of the present site, possession of which was obtained at Michaelmas, it is proposed to fence it in the early spring. In order to consider what further steps should be taken a Sub-Committee has already devoted some careful attention to the subject.

The permission of the Council to engage a female servant to assist the Matron in cooking and in the Hospital was not acted on till the winter.

Although the Patients were few in number the complete isolation which the Hospital affords probably saved the District from outbreaks of Scarlet fever and Diphtheria.

One child died of Diphtheria. All the other Patients left cured, and many greatly improved in vigour by their residence in this healthgiving spot.

The following Table shows the number of Persons with their Diseases who have been admitted since the Hospital has been opened, together with the number of days in each year on which it has been in use.

	Small-Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	No. of days in which the Hospital was in use
1887	...	2	...	...	1	...	..	..
1888	...	1	5	1	2	...	...	144
1889	...	6	5	3	1	1	...	240
1890	1	2	3	1	2	..	..	158
1891	...	6	3	...	...	...	...	165
1892	...	10	3	...	1	...	...	297
1893	17	118	2	3	2	...	...	327
1894	...	45	...	...	...	...	1	320
1895	...	26	9	...	...	...	...	363
1896	6	117	8	1	...	...	...	355
1897	...	15	26	...	...	...	...	310

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for 1897.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s	d
Paid by Patients ...	27	14	4
Sale of Hay	1	0	0
Balance out of Rates ...	526	16	0
	£555	10	4

PAYMENTS.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Structural Expenses.						
Additional Furniture ...	1	5	0			
Replacing Linen, Blankets and Curtains	26	7	4			
				27	12	4
Establishment Expenses.						
Salaries to Medical Superintendent and for Medical Attendance; to Matron, Nurses, Laundresses and other Servants	309	15	8			
Repairs, Carpenters, Upholsterers Plumbers, Glaziers and Ironmongers work, and Household Articles.	12	18	9			
New Grate for Scullery ...	9	19	6			
Cleaning and Repairing Filters	8	7	9			
Sweeping Chimneys ...		19	0			
Conveyance of Nurses ...		18	0			
Servants Registry Office ...		5	0			
Stationery and Stamps ...		8	7			
Rates, Taxes and Insurance ...	4	1	6			
				347	13	9
Patients' Expenses.						
Horse Hire for Ambulance ...	1	12	0			
Grocer	51	4	0			
Butcher	47	17	10			
Baker	9	15	0			
Milk	15	18	1			
Ale	7	8	6			
Wine and Spirits ...	1	2	0			
Coal and Firewood ...	32	18	9			
Petroleum	3	16	2			
Antitoxine, Disinfectants, Drugs, and Instruments ...	4	5	5			
Bacteriological Examination ...		10	5			
Manure		17	4			
Plants and Seeds ...		18	9			
Potatoes	2	0	0			
				180	4	3
				£555	10	4

With a small number of Patients the expenditure is relatively much greater than when the Hospital is full, for besides the maintenance of the permanent staff who could attend to the wants of larger numbers, it not unfrequently happens that a single case requires the sole attendance of two nurses (day and night).

The kindness of friends in sending gifts to the Hospital is gratefully acknowledged:

Winchester College Sanitorium, Woollen Clothing and Slippers; Hyde Parish Library, Books; Mrs. Langdon, Books, Magazines and Cake; Mrs. Cheeseman, Periodicals and Oranges; Mr. Piper, Periodicals; Mr Langdon, Basket of Strawberries, Game and Loads of Manure; Mrs. Sharland, Air Cushions, Basket of Apples and Picture Papers; Mrs. Wood Stephens, Picture Papers; Mr. Bailey, Game, Fruit and Flowers; Mrs. Symonds, The Links, Highcliffe, Picture Papers, Magazines etc.

Thanks must also be given to the Mayor and other friends who as usual contributed to a fund for providing seasonable fare at Christmas for those residing at the Hospital.

THOS. C. LANGDON, F.R.C.S.
Medical Superintendent.

GUILDHALL, WINCHESTER,
Feb. 5th, 1898.

To the Winchester Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the following Report for the Year ending December 31st, 1897.

Removal of Nuisances.

Notices served to remedy defective w.c. Fittings, Drains, and other Sanitary arrangements	163
To remove accumulations of House Refuse and Stable Manure, and cleanse and disinfect Fowl Pens	57
To cleanse Pig Styes, and remove Pigs where found within the prescribed distance	15
To abate Smoke Nuisances (in both cases the premises were afterwards closed)	2
To abate Nuisances from Fish Shops and Fish Barrows	12
To cleanse, whiten, and disinfect Premises where found in a dirty state, and from overcrowding	4
To reinstate w.c's. where found in a ruinous state	6

In one case of a row of 10 Houses where sickness occurred the w.c's. and drains were found in a very unsatisfactory state; these have been remedied, after notices were duly served, by providing a proper cistern to each w.c., and otherwise improving the Sanitary arrangements. In another case where serious illness occurred the drains were tested and found to be in a very bad state; the whole system was reconstructed after notice being served. At St. Swithun's School, where an epidemic broke out, a portion of the drainage system was found very defective, which was at once remedied.

The Paving of a further portion of the Corn Exchange Yard has been carried out, greatly improving the Sanitary arrangements on Market and Sale Days.

A Wooden Stable erected without permission, and neither paved nor drained, was removed after notice, as it interfered with the light and ventilation of the dwelling house adjoining

Plans for 131 new Houses &c., and 2 Building Estates were submitted and approved by your Council during the year. All drains, new houses, &c. are tested according to the Regulations; this takes much time, but meets with good results.

A great number of notices have been served during the year upon occupiers of premises to discontinue sending dirty water into the public gutters and open streams.

A house-to-house inspection has been commenced with a view of ascertaining the amount of rain water discharging into the drains and from thence into the public sewers. About 400 houses have been visited, and the inspection will be continued and the results reported.

Inspections of various parts of the City have been made, and many notices of a verbal character given to remedy minor defects.

Careful attention has been given to the removal of Patients to the Victoria Hospital; also the disinfection and fumigating, upon receiving instructions from the Medical Officer of Health.

Common Lodging Houses.

The five Registered Common Lodging Houses have been periodically inspected, and orders given to cleanse and limewash at the stated periods. The number of Lodgers accommodated during the year were as follows:—

No. 1	5513
,, 2	5555
,, 3	4535
,, 4	6563
,, 5	2454
Total	24620

The number for 1896 was 25,155, thus shewing a decrease of 535.

Dairies, Cow Sheds and Milk Shops.

The Registered Cow Sheds, Dairies and Milk Shops have been periodically inspected, and notices given where necessary, to cleanse, limewash, remove manure. &c. One Dairy and a large range of Cow Sheds have been pulled down, and removed to new premises beyond the City Boundary, this has been the means of getting rid of a continual nuisance in the neighbourhood where they formerly existed.

Slaughter Houses, &c.

There are 11 Registered Slaughter Houses, which are frequently inspected, notices being given to cleanse, limewash, and to remove manure where found necessary, otherwise their condition has been found satisfactory.

Observations have been made kept upon the Butchers, Poulterers, Fish Shops and Fish Stalls, and in no case has it been found necessary to take proceedings under the Act.

Factory and Workshops Act.

Various inspections have been made and notices served under the Act, where necessary, as follows:—

To reduce the number of Workers where overcrowding existed.

To repair, cleanse and limewash.

To provide w c. accomodation and ventilation, and repair drains.

To discontinue sending washing water into the public channels.

During the summer months special attention was given to the Flushing and Disinfection of the Public Sewers, Channels and open Passages.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Guildhall, February 5th, 1898.

ROBT. J. PIPER,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

CITY OF WINCHESTER.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1897.

Printed by Order of the Winchester Urban District Council.

THOS. C. LANGDON, F.R.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health.

FEBRUARY 5TH, 1898.

Potter & Byles, Printers, Winchester.